THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"Do not suppose, because it has been spoken concerning restoration, that ye shall be restored from sin to happiness. Behold, I say unto you, wickedness never was happiness." BOOK OF MORMON, ALMA 41: 10.

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OF THE NOBILITY OF HEAVEN*

ELDER GEORGE ALBERT SMITH
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

I FEEL very humble this morning, and my soul is filled with gratitude to our Heavenly Father for membership in this Church. Of all the blessings that have come to me in life the most precious is the knowledge that God lives and that this is His work, because that comprehends all other blessings that I may hope to enjoy in this life or in the life that is to come.

FIFTY-SEVEN YEARS AGO—AND NOW

Fifty-seven years ago to-day, I am informed by good authority—the testimony of my mother—there were two feet of snow on the ground in the Salt Lake Valley. And when I contrast this beautiful morning—the sun shining, birds singing and flowers in bloom—I have an impression that there is quite a difference in the climatic conditions. And I also have reason to believe that there is a very great difference in the general condition of our country and the circumstances surrounding the membership of this Church, since April 4th, fifty-seven years ago.

It is peculiar how many things transpire in our lives in a short period of time. If you men and women who are here, who have passed fifty years of age, will review and consider how many remarkable circumstances have transpired, how many inventions

*Address delivered at the third session of the Ninety-seventh Annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 4th, 1927.

and discoveries have been recorded, within your memory, you will realize that we are moving at a very rapid pace.

FAVOURABLE CHANGES

The Lord revealed to one of His prophets that at the coming forth of the Book of Mormon He would commence His work among the nations for the restoration of His people. When we realize with what speed the Gospel of Jesus Christ may be disseminated now as compared with the year 1830, we can see that the Lord has set His hand, and the opportunity to know is offered to men. It will not be long now, until in every part of this world the Gospel may be heard through the servants of the Lord proclaiming it in power. Our Heavenly Father will adjust conditions in the world so that the Gospel may be preached. The World War has readjusted the boundary lines and changed conditions in some nations, and the conflict that is now on in China, and the earthquakes and other disturbances that are afflicting mankind, will be in preparation for the further promulgation of the word of the Lord.

DIVINELY BESTOWED AUTHORITY

Your mission is a very remarkable one, you men who bear the Priesthood. Upon you has been conferred divine authority. You did not obtain your right to preach and teach the Gospel and officiate in its ordinances as a result of training in a college or university. You received your authority from men divinely commissioned to act as servants of the Lord, and it was conferred upon you by those who had received it direct from Jesus Christ our Lord.

Joseph Smith was only a boy when the hands of Peter, James and John were laid upon his head, and he was ordained to the Melchizedek Priesthood—he and Oliver Cowdery. A little later Joseph Smith was directed to organize a Church. He was only a young man, but he organized it under the direction of the Redeemer of mankind. And it is patterned after the Church which was organized by the Saviour when He was upon the earth. I have no doubt there were many who looked upon this young man as an upstart, and thought it was ridiculous that one who had not been educated to become a leader should presume to lead. But he was like the other servants of our Heavenly Father who have lived upon the earth, who have been called by the Lord to perform a special labour; and the lack of knowledge pertaining to the things of this world did not preclude the possibility of the Lord's giving unto him information that made him equal and even superior in many respects to those who had possessed great earthly opportunities that were denied him.

It has always been a source of satisfaction to me that this youth possessed such a character that his father and his mother, his

brothers and sisters, yes, and his uncles and aunts, who were much older than he was, were impressed with his testimony, and were glad, notwithstanding it was unpopular so to do, to ally themselves with him and his teachings.

THE TESTIMONY OF PATRIARCH JOHN SMITH

I have here a document that was printed in the *Deseret News*, in the year 1851. It is a statement of an uncle of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and there are a few things in it that I think may be interesting to you. It indicates the faith of this good man, who, by the way, was the first stake president in Salt Lake Valley. I refer to John Smith. He became Patriarch of the Church. He was an uncle of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and was born in 1781. This is his statement. I will read only a portion, because it is somewhat lengthy:

It is now upwards of twenty-one years since the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, with six members, most of whom are numbered with the dead.

Before proceeding I want to call your attention to the fact that this was written not long before the death of this good man.

Soon after its organization I heard the Gospel through my nephew, Joseph Smith, Jr., and obeyed the commandments of the Lord by entering in at the door, which is baptism.

If the Presidency and Twelve who are now living had not been servants to the cause when Joseph lived, they would not have been worthy to fill the exalted stations which they now occupy; and always remember: That he who is the greatest among you must be the servant of all.

Bring up your children the way they should go, that they may be ornaments to the society and a blessing unto you in your old age; and remember that God will not hold you guiltless if you should neglect to attend to this matter. Remember also to teach them to pray; and cause your sons to take part in the family prayer; and beware what company they keep, for "evil communications corrupt good manners."

Let not your daughters mix with the sons of the strangers whom you know nothing about, and who are not of the house of Israel; but gather your children together, and teach them the principles of truth and righteousness, and teach them to obey the laws of God, and the day will come that they will arise and bless you.

Teach unto them every truth which God has revealed. Instil into their young minds every principle that will make them a noble race, and remove from their paths everything that is contrary to God and His commandments. . . . You will then have a race of children who will rise in the midst of Israel, and will break the shackles of superstition, and be fit beings to carry on the work which their fathers commenced; and the Spirit of God will assist you in doing these things, provided you put forth all your energies with your might. . . .

Let every elder of Israel put on the garments of righteousness, teaching by precept and example the true principles which exalt the mind, expand the understanding and make man a fit companion for his Creator.

Never dishonour the high and holy calling which has been placed upon him by teaching and suffering to be taught, in his home or anywhere that he has influence or power to control, doctrines that are not of God. . . .

I must conclude, for I feel the infirmities of age creeping on, and knowing not when the Lord shall require me hence, I wish to take this opportunity of adding my mite to the testimonies of the thousands who are scattered throughout the globe, and of those who are gone beyond the veil, and who sealed theirs with their blood.

In Kirtland, Ohio, four brothers sat in the patriarchal seat in the temple of God, and I only of that number am left to tell the tale; and as I am now past the time allotted to man to live, it is reasonable that I also will be gathered unto my fathers in the time appointed of God.

I therefore bear my testimony, which I wish translated into every language and read to every Saint, and printed wherever the type is used; that the world may see and hear what I have to say; for if I were young I would visit them, when they should hear from my lips that God has again spoken from the heavens; that He has again condescended to send His angels to visit fallen man, and point out the way whereby he can be saved. He appointed Joseph Smith a prophet, and revealed unto him His commandments.

I testify that Joseph Smith was a Prophet, Seer, Revelator, and a man of God; and what was revealed through him will prove life and salvation to those who believe and obey, or death and condemnation to all who count it as naught, and harden their hearts against the truths he preached and practiced. I knew him—

I want to impress this paragraph upon your minds:

I knew him when at his mother's breast, I watched and counselled his youth, but when God spoke and taught him, I bowed to his superior knowledge, and although he was a boy and I an old man, and his uncle, yet I was not ashamed to learn true principles from him, and like Paul at the feet of Gamaliel, drank in the truths which flowed from the prophet's lips.

I was in jail with him and his brother Hyrum a few hours before they were killed, and I can testify before God, that they died innocent of any crime, and that they sealed their testimony with their blood.

I testify to all men, that I know that the angel has appeared which John the Revelator saw, who had the everlasting Gospel to preach to every nation, kindred, tongue and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgment is come.

And I call on all men, priests and people, kings, potentates and rulers, to cease their strife, come and obey the Gospel, gather with Israel, obey the commandments of God, that you and your dead may be saved and brought up in the first resurrection.

I say to the Saints that by the power of the holy priesthood vested in me, as Patriarch, I bless you, and I say unto you, Be faithful and you shall be blessed in your basket and your store; you shall have all blessings which were promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; and the Lord will preserve you as in the hollow of His hand, and no power shall stay the work, for everything that shall be brought against it will fail. . . .

He concludes by signing himself "*John Smith, Patriarch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.*"

I have read this, my brethren and sisters, for the purpose of calling attention to the fact that that was the class of people from whom the prophet of the Lord sprang. Men and women who had faith in God, who were readers of the scriptures, who believed in the power of God. and who, where it would be natural for them, because of their age, to direct the youth of their own household, were humble in their souls, and prepared to bow to the superior wisdom, not of the boy, but of our Heavenly Father who inspired him.

It is a beautiful testimony to me because in the evening of his life, when he was all ready to pass to the great beyond, he wanted to leave that testimony to the Latter-day Saints. There is much more in the document, but I do not feel like I ought to take the time to read it.

THE TESTIMONY OF PRESIDENT GEORGE A. SMITH

I have another short document which is from his son, and I shall read a short paragraph from it, which has a bearing also upon something which you may be glad to know. This is from the historical discourses of President George A. Smith, a counselor to Brigham Young, reported by David W. Evans, in the year 1869:

We look around to-day and behold our city clothed with verdure, beautiful with trees and flowers and with streams of water running in almost every direction, and the question is frequently asked, "How did you ever find this place?" I answer, "We were led to it by the inspiration of God." After the death of Joseph Smith, when it seemed that every trouble and calamity had come upon the Saints, Brigham Young, who was President of the Twelve, then the presiding quorum of the Church, sought the Lord to know what they should do and where they should lead the people for safety. While they were fasting and praying daily on this subject, President Young had a vision of Joseph Smith, who showed him the mountain we now call Ensign Peak, immediately north of Salt Lake City, and an ensign fell upon that peak, and Joseph said, "Build under the point where the colors fall, and you will prosper and have peace." The Pioneers had no pilot or guide, none of them had ever been in the country or knew anything about it. However, they traveled under the direction of President Young until they reached this valley. When they entered it President Young pointed to that peak, and said, "I want to go there." He went up to the point and said, "This is Ensign Peak. Now, brethren, organize your exploring parties, so as to be safe from Indians; go and explore where you will, and you will come back every time and say, This is the best place." They accordingly started out exploring parties, and visited what we now call Cache, Malad, Tooele and Utah Valleys, and other parts of the country in various directions, but all came back and declared this was the best spot.

SIX GENERATIONS

Asael Smith believed in this latter-day Gospel. He was the

father of John Smith, the first man to whom I referred, who was the father of George A. Smith, who was the father of John Henry Smith, who was my father, and I have a son in Germany preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ—the sixth generation in the Church in our line—doing his mite as each of these individuals has done in this one family. And then we have many other families of that early day represented in the mission field. Some of the men upon this stand are descendants of those who were in the Church in an early day.

SERVANTS OF STRONG CHARACTER

There are throughout the organized stakes of Zion, men of strong character, men who think and reason for themselves, men who have tested the value of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by observing its teachings, men who have not been afraid to go into the world and proclaim an unpopular doctrine, men who have been willing to offer their lives in order that the Gospel might be proclaimed. It is to humble men like these who do not exalt themselves in the eyes of their fellows, who believe in the divine mission of our Saviour, who know as they know they live that our Heavenly Father has revealed Himself in this latter day, that our Lord has given a living testimony of the truth. This great Church has been presided over by men who have been specially prepared, specially taught, specially equipped for that high honour that has been conferred upon each as he has taken his place. Our Heavenly Father in His wisdom has surrounded these leaders of Israel with others who like themselves have faith and who do not bow to the individual, because of his personality or individuality as President of the Church, but who recognize him as the mouthpiece of our Heavenly Father and sustain him and uphold him and pray for him, and love him, in order that they, too, may receive the blessings of our Heavenly Father.

INTEGRITY OF LEADERS

There is no other organization like this in the world. There are no other people led as this people are led. It is truly said that those who preside are just men. It is through them that our Heavenly Father will perform His work. It is through them that the Gospel must be taught, and I call your attention to this fact: Not one of these men who have presided over the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints but has been willing to give his life for it if need be. The first one did give his life, and the others have been just as willing, if need be, in order that the work of our Heavenly Father may be perpetuated, and that all men might be called to repentance. The man who presides over us to-day is not presiding because of his own native ability. He is not presiding because he is the son of some great potentate, but he is in the position he occupies because our Father in heaven knows the

integrity of his soul. Realizing the determination he would have to carry this message to all the nations of the earth, He prepared him for the high calling that has been conferred upon him. He presides as the representative of our Heavenly Father.

TEACH CHILDREN THE GOSPEL IN THE HOME

Brethren and sisters, let us remember the teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The good man to whom I have referred, and whose instructions I have read, who was one of the early patriarchs of the Church, advised us to teach our children. If there is anything needed among the people to-day more than another, it seems to me it is that we shall honour Home Evening, as it was recommended to us by President Joseph F. Smith; that we shall meet with our children around our own fireplaces and teach them the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the power of God unto salvation. And if we will do that, we have been promised that the Lord will add His blessing.

TESTIMONY

Fifty-seven years ago to-day I first saw the light, not very far from where I now stand. It has been fifty-seven years of experience, with some privations, some difficulties, some anxieties, and much happiness. In your presence I thank my Heavenly Father for the opportunity that has come to me. I am grateful to have the companionship of my brethren and sisters in this wonderful organization. There has not been a day since I arrived at the age of accountability, there has not been a moment of time since I had the power to reason and think and understand for myself, that I have not known as I know that I live that this is my Father's work. God help us to be worthy of the splendid privileges that are ours, help us to be worthy of Him who gave us life and being and honoured us with His Holy Priesthood; and in kindness and love let us reach after those who do not understand, drawing them by cords of kindness and love, that they, too, may partake with us of this blessing which is the power of God unto salvation to all those who will believe and obey.

That the Lord may give us this power, and that we may pass it on to our children and our children's children to the latest generation, that in His own due time, when He shall gather His jewels, we, who have had this great opportunity, may find our names enrolled in the Lamb's book of life, is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

I HAVE HAD many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have been able to place in God's I still possess.—MARTIN LUTHER.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1927

EDITORIAL

BEWARE OF WOLVES IN SHEEPS' CLOTHING

In one of the sensational papers of the country, the *World's Pictorial News*, issue of Sunday, June 5th, appears an infamous article under the caption, "Revelations of Ex-Mormon Elder." It purports to have been written by William Ernest Bowns. The article is so full of inaccuracies, misstatements, and glaring falsehoods, that we cannot attempt any extended treatment, analytical or otherwise, in these columns.

It is less of the article than of the author that we desire to speak. A man calling himself *William Ernest Bowns*, whose portrait appears in connection with the article, called in person at our London headquarters on Friday, June 3rd, where and when the writer of these lines had a conversation with him. The man exhibited to me and others a "Certificate of Baptism and Confirmation" a copy of which appears with the article. This man was pleading for money, stating as the basis of his appeal that he was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in full fellowship, that he had recently come to this country to engage in journalistic work, that he had several articles in the hands of publishers, but pending the acceptance of these and payments thereon he was destitute. Money was given him as we have given to other beggars—some of them worthy, others as false as sin.

In answer to the few questions I put to him, he positively stated that he is a member of the Church, but that he had never been ordained to any office in the Priesthood.

In the article referred to, he sets forth that in view of some sinister discoveries he finally decided to break his oath and sever all connection with the "Mormons". That man knows that he was never required to take an oath, or put himself under any obligation characterized by an oath, in connection with his entrance into the Church or his activities therein.

Notwithstanding his positive statement to me that he had never been ordained to the Priesthood, he declares in the article that he "was made a priest" and he further mentions his "period of priesthood", while in the title to his writing he is designated as an "Ex-Mormon Elder."

As to whether the Certificate of Baptism and Confirmation was ever issued to him, as to whether the man's true name appears on

the Certificate, as to whether he ever was a member of the Church, and if so, as to whether he has been excommunicated therefrom, will be determined by official inquiry. We advise our District Presidents, Traveling Elders, and local members, to beware of this man, who may come to them, inasmuch as he has already come to some of us, begging money on the plea that he is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in a state of need.—J. E. T.

OUR DISTRICT CONFERENCES

THE SCOTTISH CONFERENCE, a report of which appears elsewhere in this issue, marked the close of the series of District Conferences in the British Mission for the current Spring season. Such conferences have been held weekly since February 27th; and the fifteen territorial units known as Districts have been included in the series. Each of these occasions has been one of rejoicing and thanksgiving on the part of the people, of manifest interest by both members of the Church and others who have established themselves as friends and investigators, and in a particular way by the missionaries who have assembled in their special gatherings to make reports and receive instructions.

A pleasing feature of the Spring Conferences this year is the attention given to the proceedings by the Press, resulting in fair and informative accounts being published from week to week. As illustrative of the information thus circulated, the following excerpt is taken from *The Scotsman*, Edinburgh, of June 7th, relating to the conference held in Glasgow on the preceding Sunday:

The principal speaker of the day was Dr. James E. Talmage, F.R.S.E., who is President of all the missions of the Church in Europe, Asia, and Africa. He and his wife, Mrs. May Booth Talmage, who is President of of the Relief Society and other women's organisations in these missions, had come from headquarters in Liverpool for the occasion.

Dr. Talmage dealt particularly with the actuality of the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in these modern days, and the reality of revelation from God to man in these times as in those of the ancient prophets.

THE REVELATION OF JOSEPH SMITH

An actual restoration was absolutely necessary to the advancement of the race, and this had been brought about in these days through the revelation of God to Joseph Smith, who was described by the speaker as a prophet ranking with those whose utterances were preserved in Holy Writ. Dr. Talmage explained that his Church maintained a missionary force numbering between 2,000 and 3,000 continuously in the fields of the several countries, and of these an average of 150 were at work in the British Isles. He spoke appreciatively of the fairness accorded his

people by the British Press, but pointed ont the continuance of some sensational stories published by newspapers of the less prominent class. He dwelt upon the pacific character of Mormon preaching and practice. The Gospel, he said, was designed to bring peace to mankind; and in the observance of the laws of the Gospel men and nations might find that peace without which wars would not cease nor international strife be banished.

WHO ARE THE LEARNED?

ACCORDING to the annual report of the Board of Education, which was issued in the latter part of May, Great Britain has been following a policy of educational expansion during the past three years, and substantial strides have been taken in the work of enlarging and improving the public school system. The statistics show an increase of schools, teachers, pupils, and of money expended. The Nation is to be congratulated for this progress.

It has always been a tenet of the Latter-day Saints that "A man is saved no faster than he gains intelligence," and, in line with this belief, wherever they have made their homes they have promptly established schools.

The financial statement, presented by President Heber J. Grant at the last Conference of the Church during the forepart of April, shows that $837,810.47 (nearly £170,000) was spent for the construction and operation of Church Schools during 1926. This responsiblity the Church assumes itself, strictly independent of schools controlled by the several governments; but nevertheless, the Church Schools maintain high standards, and their credits are recognized by leading institutions of learning.

This school system is in addition to the various auxiliary organizations, which are conducted by a voluntary corps of teachers wherever a branch of the Church is found. These auxiliaries offer a liberal education to all, members and non-members alike.

One of the eternal truths revealed from heaven through the Prophet Joseph Smith states: "The glory of God is intelligence." This is in harmony with other teachings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ recorded in the Doctrine and Covenants of the Church:

> Whatever principle of intelligence we attain unto in this life, it will rise with us in the resurrection.
>
> And if a person gains more knowledge and intelligence in this life through his diligence and obedience than another, he will have so much the advantage in the world to come.

In another place this appears:

> And set in order the churches, and study and learn, and become acquainted with all good books, and with languages, tongues, and people.

Are we to understand, then, that a college diploma will serve as a passport for entrance into the kingdom of God? The answer

to this ridiculous query is obvious. Not all wisdom is found in books, not all learning is possessed by scholars, not all education is obtained in schools. The following lines by John Ruskin aptly express the scope of education:

Education does not mean teaching people what they do not know. It means teaching them to behave as they do not behave. It is not teaching the youth the shapes of letters and the tricks of numbers, and then leaving them to turn their arithmetic to roguery, and their literature to lust. It means, on the contrary, training them into the perfect exercise and kingly continence of their bodies and souls. It is a painful, continual and difficult work to be done by kindness, by watching, by warning, by precept, and by praise, but above all—by example.

"It is impossible for a man to be saved in ignorance." Scholastic attainments are very desirable; but God does not look upon wisdom according to the reckoning of the world. He who perceives true value, practises right-living and complies with the requirements of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, is learned.—RICHARD L. EVANS.

MUCH ADO ABOUT A BASEBALL GAME

ON JUNE 4th, the Elders of the Sheffield and Nottingham Districts engaged in the manly sport of baseball at Nottingham.

Even this trivial incident linked with the name "Mormon" was commented upon by eleven Nottingham and London daily papers that have come to our notice, and probably by more. Most of the accounts were impartial; but a few of the lower class journals implied that the Nottingham Corporation had refused the use of a ground, because of the Elders' affiliation with the "Mormon" Church. This is not the case. The match was played on one of the best sports fields of the region, the use of which was courteously granted without cost.

JERUSALEM FOR THE JEWS

ACCORDING to Arthur Brisbane, newspaper writer of international fame, Dr. Pritchett of the Carnegie Institute recently reported that the back-to-Palestine movement of the Jews cannot be successful. The Arabs are annoyed and industry is not profitable.

Mr. Brisbane wisely observed that although the Arabs outnumber them ten to one, the Jews are only taking back what was once theirs, and that thinking is what counts, not numbers.

It is well to add that the history of Jerusalem is merely prophecy fulfilled. Anyone who is acquainted with the scrip-

tures concerning the promised land could write an account of what is yet to take place there, as surely as if it had happened. It remains for names, dates and details to be filled in. Undoubtedly the movement will be a success, industry will prosper and the objections of the Arabs will be allayed. The Lord has so decreed.

True—thinking wields a mightier influence than numbers; but the foreknowledge of God overshadows all.

"HAVE FAITH IN YOURSELF"

THIS IS THE TITLE of an article by Herbert N. Casson, reproduced below. It has been widely circulated.

Life is an island, entirely surrounded by risks, losses, troubles, hardships and misadventures of all sorts.

Most men go to pieces when they have had a few beatings. They wilt. They fade away. They crawl into a safe little corner and hide, while the great rough tide of glorious life rushes past them.

The fact is that defeat is the normal thing in this haphazard little world, and victory comes but seldom. Every victory, usually, is the result of a long series of defeats.

A man must have faith in himself and in what he is trying to do. He must say: "I can." He must back himself to win. He must bet on himself. He must put up his money and play the game hard.

He must have faith in the people he works with. He must believe in his team. He must see the better side of his co-workers and not think that his own point of view is the only right one.

He must have faith in his trade. He must believe that his trade is a useful one and well worth all his efforts. He must believe that it will rise again after every depression and that it will be a greater trade in the future than it has been in the past.

He must have faith in those great Principles that make us superior to the animals of the forest—to Truth, Honesty, Sympathy, Justice, Progress. He must not allow the faults and blemishes of individuals to make him doubt the great everlasting Righteousness that has brought the human race up from the depths to the heights; and which, we have every reason to believe, shall make us mightier yet.

There is much to commend in this writing. It expresses ideas and gives advice that may well be observed by everyone. The reasoning is sound as far as it goes; but it does not carry the line of thought far enough. Typical of the attitude of the age, self interest and worldly goods are stressed to the exclusion of the one great controlling power of the universe, by which mountains have been moved and worlds formed—faith in God, and in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Trust in the Lord first, and then wield the arm of flesh in righteousness.

THE SCOTTISH CONFERENCE

On Sunday, June 5th, the Spring Conference of the Scottish District was held at the usual meeting hall, Abbotsford Place, Glasgow, and comprised three general sessions beside special gatherings of the auxiliaries and of the Priesthood. A meeting of the missionaries labouring in the District had been held on the preceding day, and a second gathering of the same character took place between the general assemblies on Sunday, as also meetings of the Mutual Improvement Associations and the Relief Society.

Mission President James E. Talmage addressed all the Priesthood gatherings, and each of the public assemblies. Sister May Booth Talmage conducted and addressed the meetings of the auxiliaries, and also spoke at the forenoon general session. District President William Cooke conducted all the general meetings, and with him were associated the eight Traveling Elders now labouring in Scotland.

The Sunday morning session was held, according to custom, under Sunday School auspices. The theme of this gathering was "The Auxiliary Organizations—Their Origin, Purpose, and Work Accomplished." Essays were read or addresses delivered as follows: The Sunday School, by William Foote, Glasgow Branch; The Relief Society, by Mary Allen, Edinburgh Branch; The Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association, by George White, Glasgow Branch; The Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association, by Eliza Sutherland, Aberdeen Branch. Brief discourses followed. Elder R. LeRoy Blamires dealt with the particular value of the auxiliary organizations to the youth of the Church, and drew an analogy between the necessity of feeding the body with material food and that of nourishing the spirit with the truths of the Gospel. Elder Robert K. Whyte cited the fact that eternal life is offered to all, but that it is predicated on obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel. He likened an individual testimony as to the genuineness of the restored Gospel unto the pearl of great price. Sister May Booth Talmage referred to the magnitude of the Relief Society and the Mutual Improvement Associations, respectively, in that units of these organizations are now established in nearly every country in the world. The Mission President referred to the auxiliaries as helps in the government and administration of the Church, indispensable to the furtherance of the work of the Lord in these days, nevertheless secondary or auxiliary in the sense of being created as organizations by the official action by those holding the authority of the Holy Priesthood. The Priesthood, he said, can form these auxiliaries, and others if found necessary, but the auxiliaries cannot originate the Priesthood nor effect the organizations pertaining thereto.

At the afternoon session Elder Carl W. Buchanan affirmed that

spiritual strength is obtainable through a study of the Book of Mormon, and spoke of the Gospel as being given of God even as attested by Paul the Apostle: "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." (Gal. 1: 11, 12). Elder John Hunter, a local officer, spoke of his personal conviction as to the genuineness of the restoration of the Gospel in this age, and voiced the earnest desire of members of the Church to reach the Temples and therein officiate in the vicarious service for their dead.

District President William Cooke presented a report of the activities of the missionaries and of the local workers during the last six-months period. This report showed: Total membership within the District, 304; organized branches, 3—Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen; missionaries labouring in the District, 9; number of hours spent by the missionaries in tracting, 1,665; number of tracts distributed by them, 40,128; number of gospel conversations, 3,497; copies of the Book of Mormon distributed, 22; other church works distributed, 52; pamphlets distributed, 2,801; towns and villages tracted, 9; open-air meetings held, 33; indoor meetings, 209. The District President then delivered an address, pointing out the absolute necessity of obedience to the laws and commandments of the Gospel if its blessings are to be received. He cited the scripture; "There is a law irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundations of this world, upon which all blessings are predicated—And when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated." (Doctrine and Covenants 130: 20, 21).

Elder Melvin H. Archibald spoke of the power given to man through the restoration of the Priesthood, explaining this to be a commission by which man acts for God upon the earth in the administration of sacred ordinances. Elder J. Ross Smith pointed out characteristic features by which the Church of Jesus Christ may be known and distinguished, and laid stress upon the necessity of teaching by deeds rather than words. President Talmage referred to sin as a spiritual disease, and to the sinner as the person afflicted therewith. He cited the words of the Lord given through the Prophet Joseph Smith in this dispensation: "For I the Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance; nevertheless, he that repents and does the commandments of the Lord shall be forgiven." (Doctrine and Covenants 1: 31, 32).

At the evening meeting Elder Ray R. Murdock spoke of the joy he had had in missionary service through nearly two years, and pointed out that the possibilities of advancement in the case of the human soul are unlimited under the guidance of gospel teachings. Elder Moroni B. Langford testified to the joy one finds in devoted missionary work and of the happiness that had

come to him through his call to the mission field. Elder George W. Romney emphasized the spiritual and physical effects of the Holy Ghost upon the soul of man, and stated that one so endowed radiates an influence that is felt by others. President James E. Talmage dealt particularly with the actuality of the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in these days, and emphasized the present as a time of warning unto the nations, in view of the prediction made by the Lord that when this "gospel of the kingdom" is preached in all the world as a witness unto the nations the end shall come—such end, said he, being the inauguration of the Millennium, during which Christ shall reign personally upon the earth. He proclaimed the Prophet Joseph Smith as having come to earth divinely appointed, and as having accomplished his mission, as did each of the prophets of old, leaving an indelible record on the pages of time.

A spirit of deep earnestness was manifest amongst both members of the Church and investigators throughout the conference, and widespread publicity was accorded through the publication of reports in several very prominent journals. Fair and comprehensive accounts appeared in *The Glasgow Herald, Daily Record and Mail, The Evening Citizen*, all of Glasgow, and *The Scotsman*, published at Edinburgh.

CARL W. BUCHANAN, District Clerk

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Transfer: Elder Myron H. Brenchley has been transferred from the Leeds to the London District.

Releases and Departures: Elder Marvin P. Thain, honourably released President of the Nottingham District, and formerly Traveling Elder of the London and Liverpool Districts, sailed from Southampton on June 15th, aboard the *Celtic*. Elder Cecil B. Crane of the Liverpool, London, Free State and Scottish Districts has been honourably released and departed on the same vessel. Both were bound for their homes in America.

Arrivals and Assignments: The following missionaries arrived in Liverpool on June 11th, aboard the *Montcalm*; they have been thus assigned:

For the British Mission—L'Etrenne Andelin, Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Scottish District; John L. Linton, Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Manchester District; Joseph Elial Whitehead, Provo, Utah, to the Nottingham District.

For the Netherlands Mission—Kenneth S. Berry, Kanarra, Utah; John Frederik Kikkert, Salt Lake City, Utah; Preston P. Williams, Kanarra, Utah.

For the South African Mission—Otha Layton Alldredge, Magna, Utah; Ray W. Ellsworth, Safford, Arizona; Rex C. Ellsworth, Safford, Arizona.

For the Swiss-German Mission—James Eugene Burrows, Ogden, Utah.

Doings in the Districts: *Hull*—The Bee-Hive girls of the Hull District held a social on June 1st. Enthusiasm for the work is manifest in this District.

Nottingham—The Traveling Elders of the Nottingham and Sheffield Districts engaged in a baseball game at Nottingham on June 4th. A farewell social in honour of President Marvin P. Thain was held at Hucknall in the evening. Members and friends from all the branches of the District were present.

Norwich—At a service held in Norwich on June 5th, one person was baptized by President Clemuel J. Neville, and confirmed by Elder H. Kenneth Brown. Brief addresses on the significance of the ordinances were delivered by President Neville and Elder George F. Deem.

PRAYER

PRAYER for my soul—more things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice
Rise like a fountain for me night and day.
For what are men better than sheep or goats
That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer
Both for themselves and those who call them friend?
For so the whole round earth is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.

TENNYSON

CONTENTS

Of The Nobility of Heaven ... 369
Editorials: Beware of Wolves in Sheeps' Clothing 376
Our District Conferences ... 377
Who Are The Learned? ... 378
Much Ado About a Baseball Game 379
Jerusalem for the Jews ... 379
"Have Faith in Yourself" 380
The Scottish Conference ... 381
From the Mission Field 383
Poetry: Prayer 384

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LIVERPOOL

FOR SALE IN ALL THE DISTRICTS OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN